

State of Missouri
Office of Administration
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Office of Administration

Governor's Council on Disability

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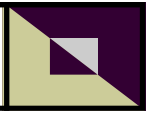


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HISTORY

The Governor's Council on Disability traces its roots to the World War II era. In 1947, President Harry S Truman issued an Executive Order establishing the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. This Committee was created to assist disabled WW II veterans with reentry into the civilian workforce. In 1949, Missouri established the state Governor's Committee to share information about work related problems facing people with disabilities. In 1994, our statute was updated to broaden our mission beyond employment, enabling the Governor's Council on Disability to become a voice for more than one million Missourians with disabilities in all facets of life, including state government.

MISSION

To provide leadership and support so people with disabilities achieve inclusion and independence.

VISION

The Missouri Governor's Council on Disability will be recognized, statewide as the primary organization providing leadership to improve the lives of Missouri citizens with disabilities.

GOALS

The Missouri Governor's Council on Disability's Strategic and Operational Plan was reviewed and updated for 2009-10 on November 14, 2008. The Goals are:

- Goal I: Advise all state agencies and advocate for policies and practices that impact Missouri citizens with disabilities.
- Goal II: Encourage system changes and public policies that eliminate barriers to people with disabilities.
- Goal III: Expand opportunities and independence for people with disabilities in all aspects of their lives.
- Goal IV: Gather input from the public on disabilities-related issues and report the results of this information.
- Goal V: Develop, explore, and implement strategies to increase resources for and the operating efficiency of the Council.

For the complete Strategic/Operational Plan, please visit our website at www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov and click on Governor's Council on Disability, Strategic/Operational Plan.



COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

- 20 members and a chairperson comprise the Council.
- The Governor appoints members.
- The appointment of the chairperson requires the advice and consent of the Missouri Senate.
- Members represent each of the nine U.S Congressional Districts.
- The majority of members are people with disabilities.
- The Governor's Council is comprised of the following committees: Executive, Finance and Development, Personnel, Strategic Planning, Advocacy; and Legislative and Programs subcommittees

Karen Benson
Interim Chair
7th Congressional District
Mount Vernon
First Appointed: 10/9/01

Matthew Hughes
8th Congressional District
Farmington
First Appointed: 3/29/05

Joseph Sartorius
Member 2
St. Louis
First Appointed: 11/8/02

Dr. Joan Bergstrom
Lees' Summit
First Appointed: 7/15/08

Mary Ellen Jenison
Member 8
Lee's Summit
First Appointed: 8/9/96

Dr. Hani Soudah
St. Louis
First Appointed: 9/27/05

Joseph Colagiovanni
St. Louis
First Appointed: 9/27/05

Todd Mayfield
Member 1
Jefferson City
First Appointed: 10/9/01

Molly Tallarico
Member 5
St. Louis
First Appointed: 5/26/05

Edward Duff
7th Congressional District
Joplin
First Appointed: 7/19/05

Sarah Olson
Member 4
Columbia
First Appointed: 4/6/05

There are currently six Council member vacancies.

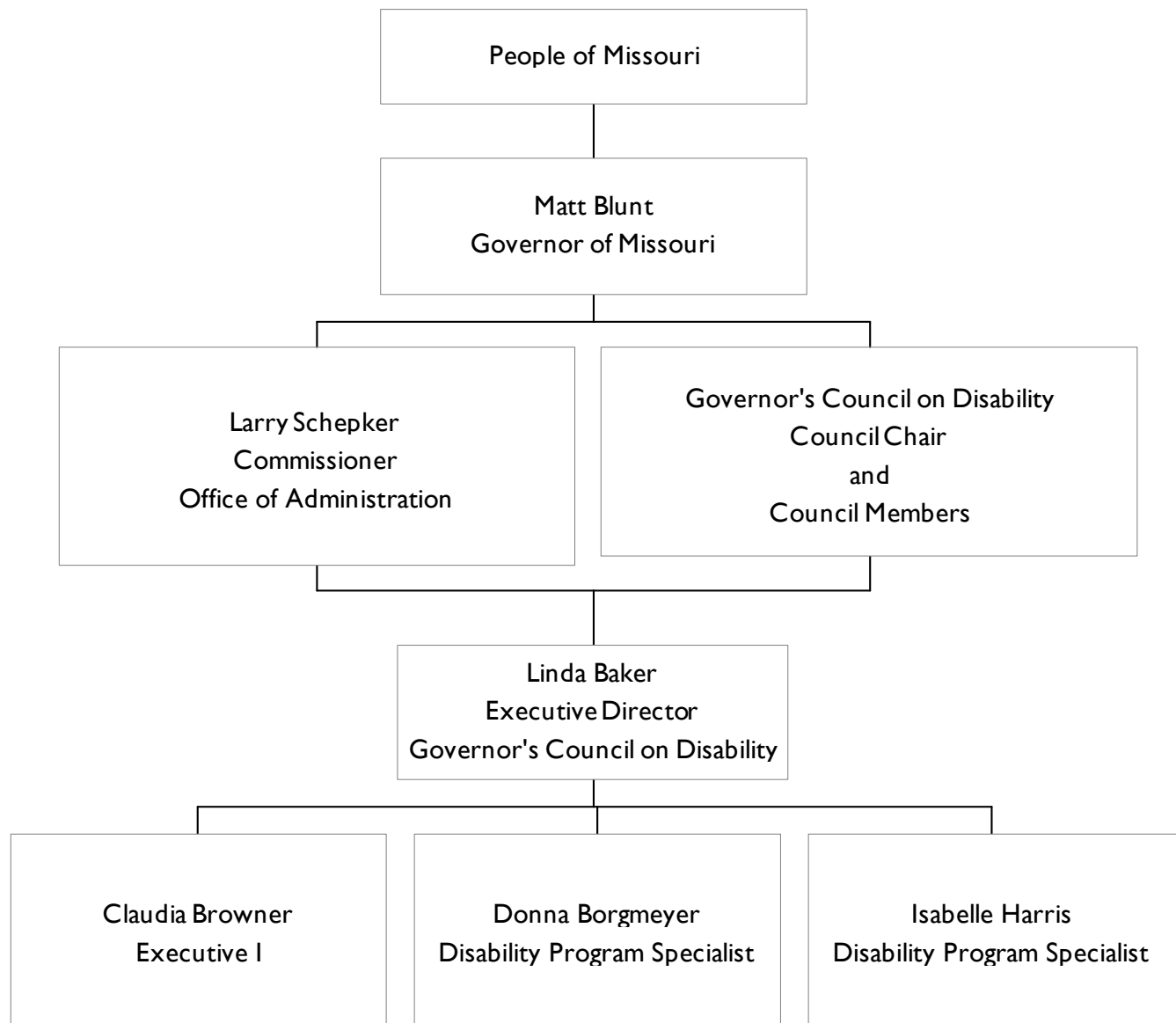
Michael Esser
2nd Congressional District
Chesterfield
First Appointed: 10/14/05

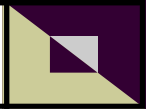
Susan Orton
2nd Congressional District
Creve Coeur
First Appointed: 7/19/05

Gregory Greven
Springfield
First Appointed: 5/16/08

Renee Dawn Powell
5th Congressional District
Columbia
First Appointed: 4/22/03

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





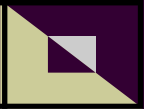
COUNCIL EVENTS 2008

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

- Daniel P. Card II resigned as Chairperson of the Council effective June 30, 2008
- Council member Karen Benson was named Interim Chairperson effective July 1, 2008
- In 2008, the following new Council members were appointed by Governor Matt Blunt:
Dr. Joan Bergstrom, Gregory Greven, John Wallace
- The following Council members resigned from the Council during 2008:
Kathleen Fagin, Michael Fredholm, Stephanie Logan, Donna Pavlick, John Wallace

PROGRAMS

- The GCD collaborated with the Office of Administration's IT department to create a new Internet site known as the Missouri Disability Portal to serve as a one-stop access point for the public to obtain information on disability resources. *(See page 16 for more information)*
- The GCD developed and maintained partnerships among the state departments. The state department liaisons are encouraged to attend the quarterly Council meetings and provide input.
- Executive Director Linda Baker initiated a meeting with other state entities to explore hiring initiatives for people with disabilities in state government.
- Council staff participated and represented the GCD at Disability Mentoring Day events.
- The GCD received a proclamation from Governor Matt Blunt, declaring October 15 as Disability Mentoring Day.
- The Council's Strategic Planning Committee reviewed and updated the Strategic/Operational Plan for 2009-10 on November 14, 2008. The entire document is posted on the GCD's website. (www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov, click on GCD, then Strategic/Operational Plan)
- Council staff provided exhibit booths at various conferences throughout the State of Missouri to raise disability awareness and provide information on disability related programs and resources.
- Staff provided presentations on the topics of employment of people with disabilities, disability awareness, service animals, the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and the Business Leadership Network as requested by agencies and employers.
- The GCD continued its annual programs
 - ⇒ Legislative Education Project
 - ⇒ Poster & Journalism Contests
 - ⇒ Missouri Youth Leadership Forum
 - ⇒ Inclusion Awards



FINANCES

The Governor's Council on Disability's programs are primarily financed through General Revenue. This funding covers personnel costs for most Council activities. The Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009) budget is listed below:

Personnel (4 FTE):	\$170,426.00
Operating Expenses:	<u>\$ 35,161.00</u>
Total:	\$205,587.00

At the time of publication, the Council has spent \$13,040.89 in operating expenses, 37.09% of the FY09 budget. Expenses include supplies, travel, Council meeting expenses, and expenses on GCD programs, with the exception of the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum.

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) is the only program that is not funded through General Revenue funds. This program is funded through a mixture of private donations, grants, and contracts.

The GCD entered into a contract with the Independent Living Resource Center in Jefferson City to create an account for the MYLF, giving GCD the opportunity to apply for grants for this program as a 501 (C)3 entity.

The following is a synopsis of the 2008 event.

Beginning balance transfer (FY09) July 1, 2008	\$40,047.02
2008 MYLF event costs:	
Supplies & Material	\$ 1,440.11
Educational learning tools	\$ 231.95**
Presenter Fees and Travel Expenses	\$ 1,792.84
Staff and Alumni Travel	\$ 377.93
Accommodations (Interpreters/PCAs)	\$ 4,851.25
Meals (separate from MU billing)	\$ 705.79
University of Missouri – Columbia *	<u>\$13,641.09**</u>
Total Spent:	\$23,040.96
Balance in OA revolving account	\$24,615.01
Balance in ILRC account (from donations)	\$10,206.90

* Includes: Lodging, meals, banquet facilities, meeting rooms, conference center fees.

** \$7,608.95 paid from FY08 funds

The average cost of the 2008 MYLF was about \$1,000 per student delegate.

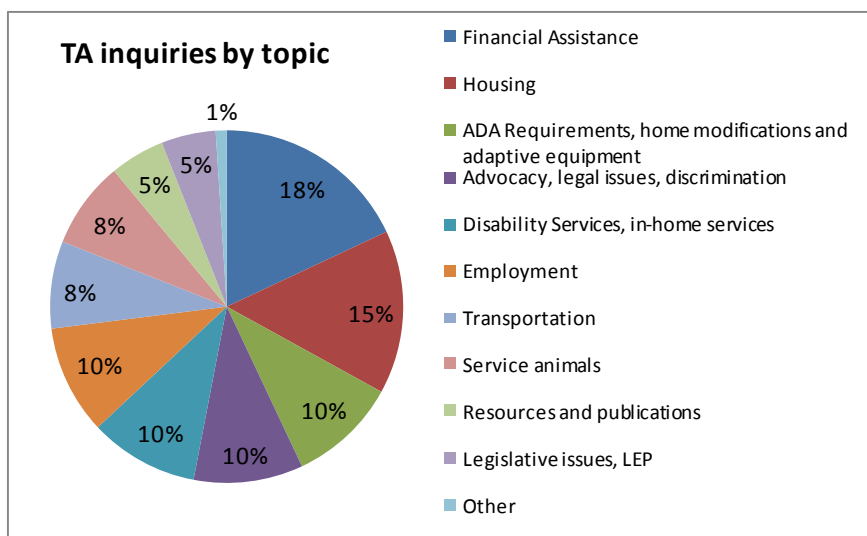


ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Governor's Council on Disability provides disability-related technical assistance to individuals, businesses, governmental and agency representatives from all over the state, and occasionally from other states, by phone, letter, or e-mail. Most contacts were from individuals in need of resources in order to live more independently. Referrals were made to Centers for Independent Living, state and federal agencies, and other non-profits, including faith-based groups and community action agencies. In some instances, referrals were made to businesses or for-profit entities. The Council also worked with a number of state legislators to provide solutions to individuals' problems and issues.

In this past year, the Council received a substantial number of calls and e-mail inquiries concerning financial assistance, housing, funding for health care assistance, utility assistance, service animals, transportation, and home modifications. Other common inquiries included information on disability statistics, state statutes, ADA guidelines and regulations, FMLA issues, how to find employment, how to secure affordable housing, and questions about potential discrimination on the job or in public places. Overall, the Council assisted more than 320 different individuals with their inquiries. Additionally, the Council



responded to more than 200 e-mail inquiries and requests. While the number of callers has decreased by 28% compared to 2007, the number of e-mail inquiries has increased by 33%.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE EXHIBITS

The Governor's Council on Disability provides educational programs on disability rights and disability awareness, employment of people with disabilities, service animals and other disability-related topics to any group or organization in Missouri requesting such information. Educational programs are specifically tailored to the individual or group to ensure effectiveness. At each of the quarterly public Council meetings, a presentation is provided on different disability-related topics.

During calendar year 2008, Council staff developed and presented 26 programs to more than 1,000 interested individuals around the state.

AWARDS

The Governor's Council on Disability sponsors the Annual Inclusion Awards and Poster and Journalism Contest each year.

ANNUAL INCLUSION AWARDS

The Annual Inclusion Awards recognize and honor private and public employers, individuals, groups, and organizations for their successful inclusion of people with disabilities in the areas of employment, education, advocacy and community. The Council's Programs Subcommittee selects the winners of the Inclusion Awards, who are nominated by individuals or organizations in their communities.

The awards for the Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year and Excellence in Universal Design and Technology will be presented to the winners during the Annual Power Up Conference at Holiday Inn Select, Columbia in April 2008. The awards for the Employer of the Year and Educator of the Year will be presented in the winners' local communities to raise disability awareness in the communities.

The 2008 Inclusion Award winners were:

Bob Aldridge Advocate Award — Jennifer Smith, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis.

As the supervisor of therapeutic horticulture programs, Ms. Smith embodies the philosophy of inclusion and has expanded a personal outreach to include students and adults with disabilities. Well beyond the scope of her job description, Ms. Smith has educated herself with the Americans with Disabilities Act and has tackled the challenge of identifying potential obstacles in the Garden. She has sought to educate and inform appropriate personnel to provide a safe and meaningful experience, striving to make the Missouri Botanical Garden "state of the art" and accessible for all patrons.

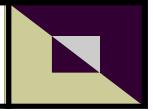
Excellence in Universal Design and Technology Award — Unlimited Play, O'Fallon.

It was a three-year old boy named Zachary who provided the inspiration behind Unlimited Play. When his mother would take Zachary to the playgrounds it would only emphasize his limitations. Even more frustrating was the fact that the playgrounds stopped him from interacting with other children. After visiting an accessible playground in Virginia, Zachary's mother began to dream such a playground would exist in the St. Louis Area. This playground was made possible by collaboration between Unlimited Play, Lake St. Louis Parks department, and the Developmental Disabilities Resource Board. This park has been the most attended park in Lake St. Louis, not just by people with disabilities but by everyone in the community.

Large Employer of the Year — AMC Theatres, Kansas City.

AMC is passionate about providing people with disabilities the best possible movie going experience and including them in the workforce. At a recent Disability Mentoring event in Kansas City, AMC hired a new employee with a disability. AMC is a founding business member in establishing a Business Leadership Network chapter in Kansas City. AMC actively hires people with disabilities through their targeted recruitment efforts.

AMC has partnered with the Autism Society of America on a program called "Sensory Friendly Films," which brings families affected by autism a special opportunity to enjoy movies in a safe and



accepting environment. AMC has offered captioned movies for their customers with hearing impairments and descriptive video for their customers with visual impairment. In summary, AMC has a longstanding and unwavering commitment to provide accessibility and inclusiveness for guests and associates with disabilities.

Small Employer of the Year Award — Subway in Macon.

Karen Bealmer owns and operates the Subway restaurant in Macon. She has employed several employees with disabilities to be part of their winning team. Many of her employees with disabilities have been employed for several years. Teenaged employees who come to work at Subway often develop a new way of thinking about working with people with disabilities resulting in a pride in working as a team.

Educator of the Year Award — Sister Jean Diedrich, Helias High School, Jefferson City.

Sr. Jean has been instrumental in providing an inclusive school environment at Helias High School for several students with disabilities. She provides the supports or accommodations to students with a disability to be as independent as possible.

In April 2008, two recipients of the 2007 Inclusion Awards were honored during the annual Power Up Assistive Technology conference at Tan Tar A, Osage Beach.

The honorees were Andrew Lackey (2007 Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year winner) and McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc. (2007 Excellence in Universal Design & Technology winner).



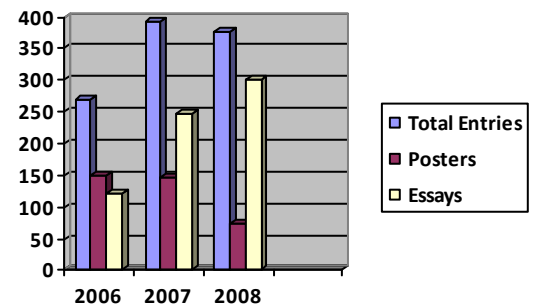
Inclusion Award winners Jack Hambene (Senior VP, McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc.—left) and Andrew Lackey (Paraquad, Inc.—right) at the awards luncheon with GCD Executive Director Linda Baker

POSTER AND JOURNALISM CONTESTS

Each school year, the Governor's Council on Disability sponsors a Poster and Journalism Contest for middle and high school students to reward excellence in art and journalism and to increase disability awareness and promote inclusion of people with disabilities among Missouri's youth.

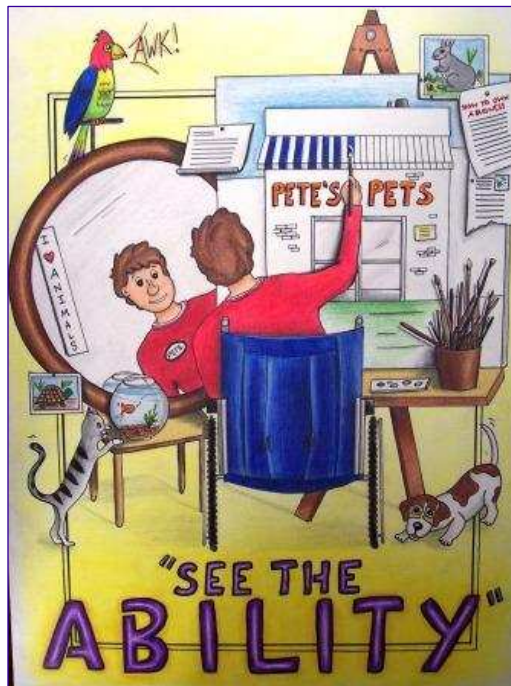
Both contests are open to middle and high school students grades 7 through 12 and prizes are awarded to the top three winners of both middle school and high school age groups. Information about the contests is distributed statewide to schools and local organizations.

The number of students who participated in the contests was 375 in 2008 compared to 392 in 2007, which is a 3.3% decrease in participation. 75 posters and 300 essays were submitted in the contests in 2007.



The overall, second, and third place winners in both contests were selected by the Council's Programs Subcommittee and received savings bonds of \$500, \$250, and \$100 respectively. The overall recipients were honored at the Missouri Assistive Technology's Power Up conference at Tan-Tar-A in April 2008 and the second and third place winners received their awards at their schools. Several businesses donated items that were used as "door" prizes for the non-winning entrants. The winners for the 2008 Poster and Journalism Contests were:

POSTER CONTEST



Overall Grand Prize

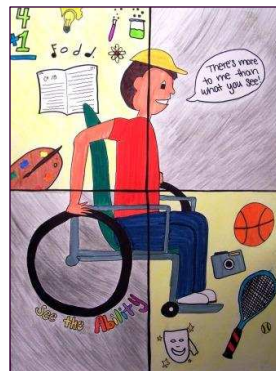
Sara Rudder
Nichols Career Center (12th Grade)
Jefferson City MO

**High School**2nd Place

Traven Sherrod

East Carter Co. R 3 (10th Grade)

Ellsinore MO

**Middle School**2nd Place

Molly Dougan

Hixson Middle School

Webster Groves MO

**High School**3rd Place

Maggie Kane

Kirkwood High School (10th Grade)

Kirkwood MO

**Middle School**3rd Place

Tyler Aulbur

Westran High School (9th Grade)

Huntsville MO

Journalism Contest**Overall Grand Prize**

Ogonna Anunoby

Simonsen 9th Grade Center

Jefferson City MO

High School2nd Place

Ashley Grissom

Caruthersville High School (10th Grade)

Caruthersville MO

3rd Place

Erin Frandsen

Camdenton High (12th Grade)

Camdenton MO

Middle School2nd Place

Katrina Hutton

Macon Middle School (8th Grade)

Macon, MO

3rd Place

Abbie Darnell

Rolla Middle School (7th Grade)

Rolla MO

The winning essays are available online at www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov, click on Governor's Council on Disability, then Poster & Journalism contest.

PUBLICATIONS

DIRECTORY OF RESOURCES FOR MISSOURIANS WITH DISABILITIES

The Governor's Council on Disability publishes a variety of information, including the *Directory of Resources for Missourians with Disabilities*. The Directory is available online and allows each user to search for disability-related resources by category or location. In 2008, over 300 visitors per month accessed or downloaded the Directory.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

During the legislative session, a weekly update - *Legislative Update* - was distributed to keep interested individuals up-to-date on legislation that potentially impacts individuals with disabilities. Over 1,300 individuals received the publication via email and the regular mail system in addition to the website. The number of recipients increased by 20% compared to 2007.

The Governor's Council on Disability also disseminated a variety of other publications, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines*, the *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Questions and Answers* booklets, *Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities*, the *Service Animals* booklet, *Missouri's Guide to Home and Community Based Services*, *Missouri's Guide to Housing Assistance Programs* and *Missouri State Capitol Access Guide*.

LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION PROJECT

The purpose of the Legislative Education Project (LEP) is to educate about the Missouri legislative process and motivate individuals by providing opportunities to become actively involved in positive public policy for people with disabilities. The LEP is sponsored annually during the legislative session.

During the 2008 legislative session, over 70 individuals attended the three-day LEP training program, held weekly at the state capitol. Participants were given an overview of the legislative process and a list of bills that would have an impact on individuals with disabilities. Participants were then encouraged to visit with senators and representatives and their legislative staff to discuss their concerns and voice their opinions. Attendees were also strongly encouraged to attend any hearings that took place while they were in Jefferson City. Individuals left the capitol with a new confidence in getting their voice heard both in Jefferson City and in their home districts.

New in 2008 was a customized training provided by the Governor's Council on Disability for those who were unable to commit to staying three days for the LEP. A total of 111 participants attended this one-day customized training.

Governor's Council on Disability annually conducts a Legislative Priority Survey to determine the top legislative priorities among people with disabilities. The survey is sent out to agencies and individuals. Based on the 382 returned surveys, the 2009 legislative priorities for the Governor's Council on Disability will be:

- Accessible and Affordable Housing
- Employment
- Medical Services and Health Care
- Transportation



MISSOURI BUSINESS LEADERSHIP NETWORK

The Missouri Business Leadership Network (MOBLN) champions opportunities to create productive and supportive partnerships among people with disabilities, private businesses, and governmental and community agencies. MOBLN promotes and enhances employment opportunities for qualified people with disabilities.

MOBLN sponsored a Spring Event in May featuring Luke Visconti of DiversityInc as the keynote speaker. Linda Baker gave presentations on the “Creative Approaches to an Inclusive Workforce” at various career centers and conferences. More information about the Missouri Business Leadership Network is available on the Internet at www.mobln.org.

Linda Baker met with several state entities to introduce a hiring initiative to promote state government as a best practices model for employment of people with disabilities.

In 2008, the Greater Kansas City BLN (GKCBLN) was initiated in collaboration with the State of Kansas’s Medicaid Infrastructure Grant and the Kansas City, Missouri business community: AMC Theatres as the lead employer, KC Power & Light, UMB Bank, Target, and Employment News. This is the first two-state collaboration for a BLN development. The grant will provide an executive director to oversee the operation of the GKCBLN.

MISSOURI YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) was held July 27-30, 2008 at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Twenty-four (24) youth-delegates participated in the four-day event, which is a unique career leadership training for high school juniors and seniors with disabilities. This represents a 71% increase in participation compared to 2007. By serving as delegates from their communities, young people with disabilities cultivated leadership, citizenship, and social skills. Activities included speakers, small group discussions, assistive technology demonstrations, career exploration, mentoring dinner, and a day at the State Capitol in Jefferson City to meet with legislators.



2008 MYLF delegates

Outcomes from the MYLF are:

- Nine alumni attended the 2008 MYLF as peer counselors, junior facilitators and facilitators
- Two alumni presented awards to the Poster & Journalism contest winners in their communities on behalf of the Governor’s Council on Disability
- The national youth leadership survey revealed that over 80% of the alumni reported that the MYLF increased their knowledge about career possibilities, disability laws, disability culture, and had a positive impact on their overall life experience
- The majority of the alumni are obtaining their high school diploma and are employed at least part-time
- Several alumni are attending graduate school and one alumna is studying abroad
- One alumna was elected Vice President of the Student Council
- One alumna was elected as the Easter Seals Missouri State Ambassador

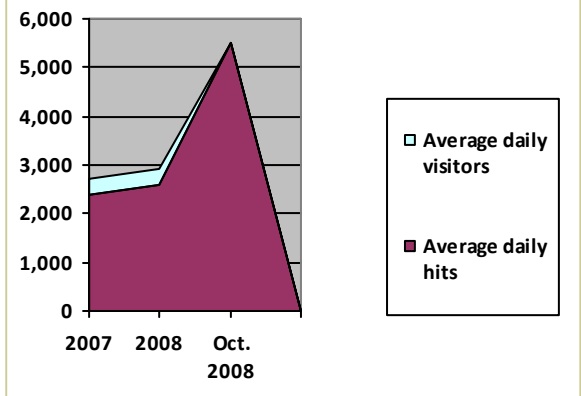
The 2009 MYLF will be held at the University of Missouri in Columbia from July 26-29, 2009.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Governor's Council on Disability participated in numerous outreach activities throughout the year to promote disability awareness and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of life. Some of the highlights were:

- The Governor's Council on Disability collaborated with the Office Administration's IT Department to develop a Missouri Disability Portal to serve as a one-stop access point for the public to obtain information on disability resources.

The homepage of this portal offers links to other entities and state agencies that provide services to people with disabilities. Resources are listed in different categories such as Employment, Housing, Education, and Transportation to make it easier for individuals to find the information they are looking for. Our office received inquiries regarding our website content from individuals nationwide. In an average month, our website receives about 79,000 hits or 2,600 hits per day. The average number of visitors to our website is 9,300 per month or 305 per day with an average of over 700 page views per day.



In October, when the disability portal was launched, the daily hits increased to 5,500 per day. The Missouri Disability Portal can be accessed at www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov

- GCD's Disability Program Specialist Isabelle Harris serves as the state coordinator for National Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) events in Missouri. The DMD were held across the state during the month of October. October is the National Disability Employment Month and October 15 was Disability Mentoring Day. Council staff presented the Governor's proclamation declaring October 15 as Disability Mentoring Day in Missouri. More than 150 high school students throughout the state had the opportunity to meet mentors in their local communities.
- GCD provided exhibit booths at the following conferences throughout the year:
 - ⇒ Power Up, Columbia
 - ⇒ Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services (MACDDS), Lake Ozark
 - ⇒ No More Stares, St. Joseph
 - ⇒ Autism Conference, St. Joseph
 - ⇒ High School Transition Fairs in Marshall, Sedalia, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit
 - ⇒ Children's Vision Summit, Columbia
 - ⇒ Missouri State Rehabilitation Association, Osage Beach
 - ⇒ National ADA Symposium, St. Louis
 - ⇒ Missouri School Counselors Association, Lake Ozark
 - ⇒ Walk Now for Autism Resource Fair, Kansas City
 - ⇒ Inclusion & Diversity in the Workplace, Jefferson City



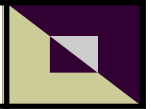
BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

As part of the Governor's Council on Disability's advisory capacity function, staff and Council members serve on a variety of boards and commissions to promote opportunities in all aspects of life, including employment, transportation, recreation, and housing. The following is a list of those boards and commissions in which staff and Council members served in calendar year 2008.

Accessible Housing Consortium, St. Louis
American Association of People with Disabilities, Kansas City
American Council of the Blind, St. Louis
Blind Literacy Task Force, Jefferson City
Boone County Family Resources, Boone County
Brain Injury Association of Missouri, St. Louis
Cardinals Access Committee, St. Louis
Central Missouri Disability Task Force, Columbia
Central Missouri United Way, Jefferson City
Children's Learning Center, Osage Beach
Clay and Platte County Parks, Trails and Greenways Board of Directors, Kansas City
Coalition for Independence, Kansas City
Columbia League of Women Voters – Health Committee, Columbia
Commission on the Courts of the Disabled
Community Rehabilitation Programs in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, Columbia
Concrete Change-Accessible Housing, Osage Beach
Council of State Directors of Vocational Rehabilitation, Columbia
Disability Policy Congress, Jefferson City
Down Syndrome Association of Mid-Missouri, Columbia
Early Childhood Comprehensive System Grant Planning Committee
East-West Gateway Council of Governments, St. Louis
Gateway Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans Association, St. Louis
Governor's Council on AIDS, Jefferson City
Heartland Productive Coalition, Kansas City
Heritage Trail and River Walk, Kansas City
Independent Living Resource Center, Jefferson City
Informed Choice Training Workgroup, Jefferson City
Kansas City Coalition Emergency and Disaster Response Board of Directors, Kansas City
Kansas City Transportation Authority, Kansas City
LEAP Project, St. Louis
Learning Disabilities Association of America, Kansas City
Lincoln University 504/ADA Committee, Jefferson City
Maryville University – Rehabilitation Counseling Program Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Mayor's Committee on Disability, Kansas City
MDA Awareness Task Force, Kansas City
METRO Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Metro Bi State Advisory Committee, St. Louis
Minds Eye Information Services, St. Louis
Missouri Bar Association and Continuing Legal Education Committee, Statewide

BOARD AND COMMISSIONS, continued

Missouri Council of the Blind, St. Louis
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Blind Task Force, St. Louis
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Special Education Advisory Panel, St. Louis
Missouri Disability Vote Coalition, Jefferson City
Missouri Disability Vote Coalition Leadership Advisory Council, Jefferson City and Joplin
Missouri Institute on Human Development Steering Board, Statewide
Missouri Parent's Act, Jefferson City
Missouri Training and Employment Council, Jefferson City Governor's appointee
MOTASH, St. Louis
MS Institute, Columbia
MS Society, St. Louis
NAMI National Consumer Council, Statewide
National Association of Governors' Committees on People with Disabilities
National Council on Independent Living, Mt. Vernon
National Council on Rehabilitation Education, Columbia
National Disability Mentoring Day Local Committee, Kansas City
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Columbia
National Summer Institute, Kansas City
Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City
North Kansas City School District Vocational Carpentry Advisory Board, Kansas City
Personal Independence Commission Community Education Workgroup, Jefferson City
Rehabilitation Services Administration, Columbia
Share-A-Fare (Paratransit), Kansas City
Southwest Regional Advisory Council for the MO Department of Mental Health
Special Needs Population Task Force, Mt. Vernon
St. Louis County Circuit Court ADA Committee, St. Louis
St. Louis County Commission on Disabilities, St. Louis
St. Louis Transitional Council, St. Louis
Starkloff Leadership Forum, St. Louis
State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind, Statewide
State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies, Columbia
Statewide Emergency Management Planning Teams, Statewide
Statewide Independent Living Council, Jefferson City
Statewide Navigator Task Force, Jefferson City and St. Louis
Statewide Quality Assurance Council, Statewide
Taskforce on Fair Transportation, St. Louis
The ARC of the US, Missouri Chapter
Universal Design Housing Network, Kansas City
University of Missouri Extension Council, Osage Beach
University of Missouri-Kansas City Advisory Committee, Kansas City
VSA, St. Louis
West-Central Independent Living Solutions, Warrensburg



LEGISLATION

The Governor's Council on Disability will continue to advocate for people with disabilities in the 2009 legislative session.

- The Legislative Subcommittee is examining pre-filed bills that relate to disability and is analyzing their impact on the disability community.
- The Council is using the results of the 2008 legislative survey as a basis for pursuing legislative issues in the upcoming 2009 session. Please refer to page 14 of the annual report for a listing of the legislative priorities.
- The Governor's Council on Disability and the Statewide Independent Living Council will continue to co-sponsor the Legislative Education Project (LEP) (see page 14).

PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE COMMISSION

The Personal Independence Commission (PIC) completed its seventh year of work. As established by Executive Order 01-08, the PIC is charged with advising the Governor on necessary policy and program changes to assure that Missourians of all ages and disabilities have access to a range of community support services. The PIC includes individuals with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, senior citizens, advocacy groups, a representative of the Lieutenant Governor's office, four members of the General Assembly and representatives from the Departments of Social Services, Mental Health (DMH), Health and Senior Services (DHSS), and Elementary and Secondary Education.

The staff of the Governor's Council on Disability continued to provide technical and staff support to the activities of the PIC. In 2008, the PIC has worked with DHSS and DMH on the Money Follows the Person Grant received by DHSS, DMH and Department of Social Services (DSS). DHSS will be seeking input and guidance from the PIC as they implement the various components of this grant. The PIC also closely monitored information concerning MO HealthNet and issues surrounding Bellefontaine Habilitation Center.

Proposed 2009 PIC Meeting Dates

To be determined

The PIC meetings are scheduled to begin at 10:30 AM at the State Capitol in Hearing Room 3.

For more information, please visit the Personal Independence Commission website at <http://www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov/gcd/PIC/PIC.shtml>

2008 MEETING AND EVENT DATES

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

January 9, 2009 *

April 3, 2009

September 11, 2009

November 13, 2009

The 2009 Council meetings are scheduled to begin at 9:30 AM at the
Governor's Office Building
200 Madison Street, Room 470
(* the January meeting will be held in room 315)
Jefferson City, MO

The Council meetings are open to the public. If you would like to attend or request additional information, please contact our office at gcd@oa.mo.gov or 1-800-877-8249.

MISSOURI YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - COLUMBIA

July 26-29, 2009